

OVERVIEW

By middle-school age, young people are forming opinions about everything they encounter. With that in mind, WORLDteen chooses stories to broaden readers' knowledge beyond just the events of their day-to-day lives, giving them more opportunity to apply thinking skills and discernment to the events of the greater world. WORLDteen stories are selected not simply for appealing content. Our editors look for news that gives opportunity to prompt response in readers, encouraging them to ask questions of their own, to apply biblical truth, and to consider ethical practices.

EACH TOPIC SECTION INCLUDES:

- Four unique stories (thirty-two online stories total; selected stories in print magazine)
- Photo slideshows with each online story (thirty-two total)
- One quiz for each topic (eight online quizzes total; one topic quiz in print magazine)
- Choice of printable worksheets included with teaching guide

DAILY NEWS SECTION:

- Online News Bytes section for breaking news each weekday
- News Bytes comments area for safe discussion of current events

RECOMMENDED PACING:

- Daily—Read the current online News Bytes stories and reader comments; optionally, add your own comments online.
- Weekly—Work through one topic section through the week: read all four stories online, research the topic further, comment online with other WORLDteen readers, and finish by taking the online quiz.
- Weekly—Complete your choice of printable worksheets (included with your teaching guide) to study a selected article or that week's topic more thoroughly.



EXPLAIN IT! STORIES

Check the box after reading each story, and then take the quiz.

- 1. A Time (and Place) for Shipwrecks:** Cold, fresh waters reveal thousands of shipwrecks in Michigan's Great Lakes. Aerial photographs give a crystal-clear glimpse to some of them still lying, well-preserved, on the lakes' floors.
 - 2. Glow with the Flow:** An uncommon algal bloom gave waves off California's coast a red hue by day and a luminescent, eerie blue glow by night. A non-toxic phytoplankton was the cause.
 - 3. Bison Return to the Range:** U.S. officials are relocating bison from Yellowstone National Park to South Dakota in an effort to restore the American icon to more of the plains lands it once freely roamed.
 - 4. Confederate Statues Tumble:** Around the South, Confederate statues are coming down in response to racial unrest. Many citizens and leaders say the memorials belong in museums and history books but no longer in public squares and town centers.
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EXPLAIN IT! QUIZ

- 1. What helps sunken ships last longer in Michigan's Great Lakes?**
 - a) the salty content of the water and the lack of large predators
 - b) the cold, fresh water of the lakes
- 2. How are U.S. Department of the Interior officials planning to build and preserve American bison herds?**
 - a) through funding better food and farming techniques and adding more hunting restrictions
 - b) by transferring bison from one location to another where the bison herds can thrive
- 3. What caused the neon blue glow in the surf along Southern California's Pacific coast this spring?**
 - a) an algal bloom of bioluminescent phytoplankton lit up the churning waves
 - b) chemical runoff from a plastics plant released a glowing, toxic substance into the waves
- 4. Cities across the American South have begun doing what to Confederate statues and memorials?**
 - a) removing them from public lands
 - b) melting them down to make souvenirs



GLOBE TREK STORIES

Check the box after reading each story, and then take the quiz.

- 1. Galápagos: Is Isolation a Blessing?:** These islands became famous in part because of their isolation. So how does a pandemic upend life on the idyllic Galápagos Islands, and what will the residents do to adapt?
 - 2. How COVID-19 Threatens Rhinos:** Loss of tourism in Kenya and other African countries leads to less protection for endangered animals in Africa . . . and poachers know the odds are temporarily in their favor.
 - 3. China Exerts More Control:** China's new security law takes freedoms from the citizens of Hong Kong. As China claims more control, Hong Kong's trade status with the United States also gets jeopardized.
 - 4. Virus-Tracking App Concerns:** Global virus-tracing apps are going live. The goal is to keep people informed if they've been exposed to the virus. But the apps raise concerns about putting safety over privacy.
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GLOBE TREK QUIZ

- 1. What event caused the people of the Galapagos Islands to reconsider the benefits of isolation, nature, tourism, and travel?**
 - a) discovering that the islands' large tortoises were the source of coronavirus
 - b) the arrival of the coronavirus on the islands, probably from Ecuadorian travelers
- 2. Protecting black rhinos and other endangered animals in Africa has gotten more difficult this year. Why is that?**
 - a) Because the novel coronavirus has changed, and it is now sickening even those wild animals.
 - b) Because tourism has dropped due to coronavirus travel restrictions, limiting budgets for rangers to work with against poachers.
- 3. What broken agreement prompted the United States to threaten to remove Hong Kong's favored trade standing?**
 - a) China has made rules in Hong Kong that violate the "one country, two systems" principle.
 - b) Hong Kongers have stopped honoring the American flag equally with the Chinese flag.
- 4. Why are countries launching apps to trace who is coming into contact with the coronavirus?**
 - a) Many countries hope to use the app to force people to go to the hospital or isolate alone even if they have no symptoms.
 - b) Officials hope contact-tracing apps will help manage virus flare-ups by alerting people to exposure, even in advance of symptoms.



KA-CHING! STORIES

Check the box after reading each story, and then take the quiz.

- 1. NASA Goes Private:** NASA hopes to return to the Moon with the upcoming Artemis mission. The government space agency is requesting private businesses' help to design a lander that will take astronauts back to the Moon's surface.
 - 2. Where To Work? Wages Will Decide:** With so many employees working from home, Facebook is making some money-saving plans. The tech giant wants to adjust pay scale for stay-at-home workers based on their locations.
 - 3. Back-to-Work Balancing Act:** Congress issued an addition to states' unemployment packages when the coronavirus sent people home from their jobs. Now it's considering the value of that stipend as the nation gradually gets back to work.
 - 4. Farm-to-Table Spreads:** The motto "Grow local; Eat local" has been gaining popularity. The movement got a boost due to the virus. Fresh, locally sourced food grown by neighbors became almost essential amid a global pandemic.
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KA-CHING! QUIZ

- 1. What is the goal of NASA's new Artemis program?**
 - a) establishing a long-term lunar economy, including the first Moon city
 - b) sending the first woman and the next man to the surface of the Moon by 2024
- 2. Facebook is looking to open up a hub of employment in _____.**
 - a) Denver
 - b) Silicon Valley
- 3. WA moral hazard could be defined as _____.**
 - a) an entity avoiding all risk to escape paying any costs
 - b) an entity taking on risk when it doesn't control the full cost
- 4. What changes have many food producers been forced to make during the coronavirus pandemic?**
 - a) Those in the food industry have had to buy all new equipment, including full-body sanitation suits.
 - b) Many farmers, fishers, and food producers have switched to packaging and selling products locally.



LAW 'N ORDER STORIES

Check the box after reading each story, and then take the quiz.

- 1. Selling Birds for a Song:** Trappers and smugglers around the world capture and sell birds for their beautiful songs. Officials try to intercept the wildlife when it enters the United States, often smuggled inside luggage.
- 2. Victory Garden Revival:** With more time on their hands, families have gotten outside and into the dirt this summer. New American gardens help fight a different kind of war in a different kind of way.
- 3. What’s Up with Youth Sports?:** Did someone say, “Play ball!” Anyone? No . . . not yet? Returning to play poses tricky questions for youth sports. How much travel and interaction is really safe?
- 4. Muzzled Mascots:** Once thought essential for keeping the crowds engaged with the games, team mascots are getting disqualified. This season, the goofy costumed characters find themselves banned from baseball.



LAW 'N ORDER QUIZ

- 1. What is a “bird-racing” competition?**
 - a) a contest in which two birds sing until one bird reaches 50 songs
 - b) a contest that involves multiple birds flying from one point to another
- 2. In what ways does today’s gardening trend mirror the victory gardens of World Wars I and II?**
 - a) Both helped out during a time of pandemic and economic trouble.
 - b) Both were funded entirely by the U.S. government.
- 3. How do some people think postponing athletic events will help remove risk?**
 - a) They think the virus will die out on its own after just a few months.
 - b) They believe waiting slows the virus spread and gives time to develop treatments.
- 4. Why are baseball officials banning spitting, bat boys and girls, and mascots this season?**
 - a) Teams are following guidelines in hopes of stopping the spread of coronavirus.
 - b) Officials need to save money because of the shortened baseball season.



MUD ROOM STORIES

Check the box after reading each story, and then take the quiz.

- 1. Mr. Yeast and His Sourdough Library:** Karl De Smedt is a Belgian baker who is allergic to flour. So he found another way to feed his passion. He collects and studies sourdough starters from around the world.
- 2. What's Bugging Insects?:** Over the last 30 years, the world's population of insects has been shrinking. What's the cause, and what could be the effects? Though some are purely pests, many do important tasks.
- 3. Giant Hornets: Scariest Insect?:** The giant Asian hornet is rarely a threat to humans, even though its nickname of "murder hornet" gives a different impression. But they do harm bees, and a few have been found out of place in the United States and Canada.
- 4. Sea Creature Snot Houses:** Scientists marvel at how tiny critters called larvaceans create vast, complex, and biodegradable undersea "snot palaces." The many-chambered structures don't house the creatures, but they serve to trap food.

MUD ROOM QUIZ

- 1. Why does sourdough starter need to be "fed" flour and water?**
 - a) Because bacteria and yeast are living organisms.
 - b) Because a thick paste is needed to suffocate bacteria before bread dough can rise properly.
- 2. What do scientists say about why insects are vanishing at a rate of just under one percent per year?**
 - a) Reports of vanishing insects are false. Insects—especially bees—are really multiplying.
 - b) Urban sprawl and removal of weeds by farmers have harmed insects' living spaces and food sources..
- 3. Asian giant hornets get their gruesome nickname ("murder hornet") from ___.**
 - a) how they attack and decapitate their fellow insects, such as honeybees
 - b) the way swarms of them chase humans and sting them repeatedly
- 4. Larvaceans are floating sea creatures. They're also master builders. What do giant larvaceans build?**
 - a) The animals construct towering walls to keep out sea predators.
 - b) They build enormous houses from snot coming out of their heads.



PEOPLE MOVER STORIES

Check the box after reading each story, and then take the quiz.

- 1. Fires, Fuels, & Viruses: Oh My!:** Wildfire season is tough on even the strongest young firefighters. Now those firefighters face two threats: wildfires and the coronavirus.
- 2. Trail’s End for Mincaye:** He participated in killing missionaries, but he repented and accepted Christ. Ecuadorian warrior-turned-believer Mincaye comes to the end of his earthly trail.
- 3. Baseball Cards Inspire Road Trip:** The contents of a baseball card pack from 1986 sent one fan on a journey to find the players. He published the results of his meetings and interviews in a book called The Wax Pack.
- 4. United by Project Isaiah:** A volunteer project delivers food to the needy and saves jobs for many others in cities around the country. Its creator calls it Project Isaiah, after the biblical prophet.

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PEOPLE MOVER QUIZ

- 1. Why are some government agencies changing guidelines for managing fuels?**
 - a) The agencies are aware that certain fuels are more flammable than others, so they want to ensure safety for everyone.
 - b) Various agencies hope to fight both fires and the coronavirus by following social distancing, good hygiene, and other practices during fire season.
- 2. How did God bring good out of the death of five missionaries?**
 - a) The killers were quickly brought to justice for their crimes against the missionaries.
 - b) God’s love shone through the missionary families, the salvation of some of the killers, and the many who glorified God following the deaths in Ecuador.
- 3. What prompted Brad Balukjian’s 48-day road trip?**
 - a) the contents of an old pack of Topps baseball cards
 - b) a need to write a book quickly to generate income during the pandemic
- 4. How have the combined skills of many people associated with Project Isaiah helped during the COVID-19 crisis?**
 - a) by organizing teams of people to scrub and clean surfaces that usually don’t get sanitized very well
 - b) by providing meals for the needy and saving jobs for those who might otherwise have lost them



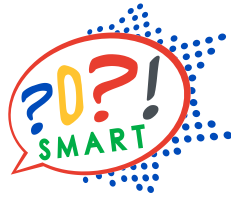
PIE IN THE SKY STORIES

Check the box after reading each story, and then take the quiz.

- 1. A Greater (Crater) Telescope:** A giant telescope may soon be built into a crater on the dark side of the Moon. Free of Earth's reflected radio waves, the scope could give a sneak-peek at new parts of the universe.
 - 2. Mysteries of the Submerged Forest:** An ancient cypress forest was found underwater. The well-preserved wood contains a boring clam called a shipworm and many bacteria. They may offer potential for new medicines.
 - 3. Clouds Reflect Coral's Future:** A radical weather-manipulating experiment may help protect the Great Barrier Reef. Scientists try to manipulate the clouds to reflect warmth away from ocean waters.
 - 4. More Tech Control for Safer Driving:** Technology gets blamed for car accidents due to distracted driving. But these tech advancements don't contribute to distracted driving. They exist to help prevent it.
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PIE IN THE SKY QUIZ

- 1. Why is the location of the LCRT on the Moon's far side important?**
 - a) Placement on the far side helps block radio wave interference from Earth, satellites, and sunspots.
 - b) Putting it on the far side helps ensure the radio transmissions can't be intercepted by foreign powers.
- 2. What do scientists hope to gain from exploring the fallen undersea cypress forest?**
 - a) knowledge about how the wood was preserved for so long
 - b) new bacteria and enzymes that might lead to development of medicines
- 3. What is "cloud brightening" for coral?**
 - a) using a non-toxic white aerosol paint to turn dark rainclouds into fluffy white clouds
 - b) shooting miniscule saltwater droplets into the air using giant blowers in order to reflect the Sun's rays
- 4. If technology distracts drivers from paying attention to the road, why are carmakers adding more and more tech to new auto models?**
 - a) The technology they are adding is designed to correct, limit, and discourage distracted driving.
 - b) They know more bells and whistles make cars more sellable, even if less safe.



POP! SMART STORIES

Check the box after reading each story, and then take the quiz.

- 1. Remote-Control Tour Guides:** Would-be travelers trapped at home during the pandemic took virtual tours of the Faroe Islands. They logged in online and then sent commands for tour guides to show them around.
 - 2. Evolution of the American Taco:** In the Great American Melting Pot, it seems everyone has a favorite version of the taco. In all regions, urban and rural, different heritages combine to generate some fancy fillings.
 - 3. American Girl Identity Theft?:** American Girl faces a lawsuit over the identity of its astronaut “Girl of the Year.” Is Luciana Vega really patterned after Lucianne Walkowicz? Or is it all just a coincidence?
 - 4. “The Girl” in the Spotlight:** High-tech scans of a well-known 17th-century painting reveal lost details. Vermeer’s famous Girl with a Pearl Earring gives up some of its secrets under intense study.
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POP! SMART QUIZ

1. How did Tex-Mex cuisine come to be?

- a) After the United States won the Mexican-American War, some Mexicans living north of the new border began integrating American ingredients into their traditional foods.
- b) Famous Mexican and Texan chefs began collaborating on dishes in the mid-1900s, to maximize variety along the Texas-Mexico border.

2. What is a “remote-controlled tour” of the Faroe Islands?

- a) Tourists operate drones with mounted cameras to record video footage of all 18 of the Faroe Islands.
- b) Live tour guides escort an internet audience around the islands in real time. Viewers control the guide by telling them to turn, run, or jump.

3. What did scans of Vermeer’s painting Girl with a Pearl Earring reveal?

- a) The background is not just dark and empty: There’s a green curtain behind the girl.
- b) The girl in the painting is Abbie Vermeer, one of the artist’s daughters.

4. What does astronomer Lucianne Walkowicz claim Mattel’s American Girl company did without her authorization?

- a) used her study findings on the distant star, Vega, and her recommendations for traveling to Mars in one of its American Girl books
- b) used her appearance, name, and references to her work to create its “2018 Girl of the Year” doll

ANSWER KEY

Explain It! quiz: 1. b, 2. b, 3. a, 4. a
Globe Trek quiz: 1. b, 2. b, 3. a, 4. b
ka-Ching! quiz: 1. b, 2. a, 3. b, 4. b
Law 'n Order quiz: 1. a, 2. a, 3. b, 4. a
Mud Room quiz: 1. a, 2. b, 3. a, 4. b
People Mover quiz: 1. b, 2. b, 3. a, 4. b
Pie in the Sky quiz: 1. a, 2. b, 3. b, 4. a
Pop! Smart quiz: 1. a, 2. b, 3. a, 4. b

Name: _____

Date: _____

READER'S CHOICE

Directions: Choose a WORLDteen article of particular interest to you. Explain why you chose it, something you learned from it, and how it connects to other things you know.

Article headline: _____

Topic area (e.g., People Mover or Mud Room): _____

Why I chose this article: _____

An interesting fact I learned from this article: _____

A connection I can make between this article and something else I've learned about (from personal experience, school, other people, reading, etc.): _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

PROBLEM SOLVER

Directions: Read a WORLDteen article. In the left-hand column below, note any problems or issues raised in the article. In the right-hand column, write down any solutions that were offered. Under the “My thoughts” section, include any problems or solutions that weren’t included in the article but which you think should also be considered. Finally, explain how you think any one of these problems or solutions illustrates how the Bible instructs us to live.

Problems:

Solutions:

My thoughts:

My thoughts:

Explain how any one of these problems or solutions illustrates biblical truths about daily living.

Name: _____

Date: _____

PHOTO INTERPRETER

Directions: Select a photo from WORLDteen. Using complete sentences, answer the following questions about the photo.

What is happening in the photo? _____

What do you see in the photo that led you to your answer? _____

Why did the editor include this photo in the article? _____

Does the photo appear to be staged or unplanned? What makes you think so? _____

Do you think the photo is an accurate portrayal of what happened? How does the photographer's use of camera angle, composition, lighting, or other elements help convey the meaning? _____

What other elements in the photo do you notice, and why? _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

FACT OR OPINION?

Directions: Select an article that interests you from WORLDteen. Read it carefully and then refer to it to answer the following questions.

List three facts or opinions found in the article and identify each as fact or opinion:

1. Fact or opinion? _____

2. Fact or opinion? _____

3. Fact or opinion? _____

When did this event take place, or does it concern a future event? Is the subject related to other past events or issues you know about? Explain. _____

What do you think might happen in the future as this story develops? Explain using complete sentences. _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

SEE CAUSE AND EFFECT

Directions: Practice identifying the causes and effects that are related to events. Select a WORLDteen article that reports on a specific event. In the following spaces, identify three causes and three effects related to this event. If some causes and effects aren't spelled out in the article, that's OK. Think about and guess what some causes might be. In the same way, try to predict some effects of the event that may not be stated in the article.

Consider more than just the obvious elements in the article. Are there specific causes and effects that demonstrate biblical principles—for example, sin, judgment, grace, or forgiveness?

Event:

Cause #1:

Effect #1:

Cause #2:

Effect #2:

Cause #3:

Effect #3:

Name: _____

Date: _____

SIX QUESTIONS IN AN ARTICLE

Directions: Read a WORLDteen article and look for answers to the questions that journalists use to tell a story—Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

Headline of article: _____

Topic area (e.g., People Mover or Mud Room): _____

Who was involved? _____

What happened? _____

When did it happen? _____

Where did it occur? _____

Why did it happen? _____

How did it happen? _____

(Extra credit: How does your knowledge of the Bible and biblical principles affect how you think about or respond to this story?)

Name: _____

Date: _____

WHY IS IT NEWS?

Directions: Editors must make decisions about which articles they will publish. There are many reasons why some articles are published while others are not. Some of the most common reasons are listed below.

Choose three WORLDteen articles of particular interest to you and write their headlines below. After reading them carefully, mark an X beside each of the reasons you think that article was published.

Story headlines:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

1.	2.	3.	
			Timeliness —news that is happening or of interest to readers right now
			Relevance —the story happened nearby or concerns local interest
			Magnitude —the story is great in size or number
			Unexpectedness —the story is unusual, or its events occurred without warning
			Impact —the news will affect a large number of readers
			Application —the news gives Christians an opportunity to consider how to apply faith principles to real life events
			Reference to someone —the news is about a prominent person or personality
			Oddity —the story is about a unique or unusual situation
			Conflict —the story presents a major struggle in the news
			Negative —the story tells bad news that may have more interest than good news
			Continuity —the report is a follow-up or continuation to a story that has been in the news
			Emotions —the news offers an emotional angle that increases interest in a story
			Progress —the news reveals hope, new achievement, new improvements